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August 29, 1989

UM TO HONOR BROWNING EDUCATOR

MISSOULA --

The University of Montana and UM Alumni Association will honor Browning educator Thomas A. Thompson for his contributions to education, the state and Blackfeet Nation at a Sept. 7 press conference in Browning.

Set for 3:30 p.m. at the Museum of the Plains Indians, the press conference is part of a Sept. 5-8 bus trip UM President James Koch and 35 other UM representatives will take to central and northern Montana.

Thompson, who earned a master's degree in education administration at UM in 1970, retired 1 1/2 years ago as superintendent of Browning Public Schools. Born in Browning in 1940, he graduated from Browning High School in 1958 and received a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Northern Montana College in 1965. He and his wife, Athena, have lived in Heart Butte for 15 years.

Serving a seven-year term on the Board of Public Instruction, Thompson is a member of the Montana Advisory Council for Indian Education and chairs the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind Committee of the Board of Public Education. He's also been on the board of trustees of the Institute of American Indian Arts, directed Eastern Montana College's Teacher Corps Project,

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and chaired the National Advisory Council on Indian Education.

His other accomplishments include editing the book "Schooling of Native America" and being named educator of the year by the Montana and National Indian education associations.

In addition, Thompson chairs the Blackfeet Indian Writing Co. and Blackfeet Advertising Corp. of America and is the former chairman of the Blackfeet Nation Committee for Change.

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Local, Browning and Cut Bank media
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